

Whereas the Department of State, in responding to the announcement by the Government of the Russian Federation to suspend compliance with the CFE Treaty, declared, "The United States is disappointed by the Russian announcement of its intention to suspend implementation of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) Treaty. The United States remains committed to CFE's full implementation. We also remain committed to the ratification and entry into force of the Adapted CFE Treaty. We look forward to continuing to engage with Russia and the other States Parties to the Treaty to create the conditions necessary for ratification by all 30 CFE States." Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that the decision of the Government of the Russian Federation to suspend implementation of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, signed at Paris November 19, 1990 ("the CFE Treaty"), is a regrettable step that will unnecessarily heighten tensions in Europe;

(2) the Senate recognizes the enduring value of the CFE Treaty as a cornerstone of European security and affirms its support for the basic principles of transparency, accountability, host country consent for the stationing of foreign military forces, and the rule of law embodied in the CFE Treaty and the 1999 Adaptation Agreement thereto;

(3) the Senate strongly urges the Government of the Russian Federation to reconsider its suspension of CFE implementation and engage with the other parties to the CFE Treaty to resolve outstanding problems and establish an agreed approach leading to the eventual implementation of the Adaption Agreement to the CFE Treaty;

(4) the Senate calls on the Russian Federation to fulfill its Istanbul Commitments of 1999 and move speedily to withdraw all remaining forces and military equipment from Georgia and Moldova;

(5) the Senate encourages all parties to the CFE Treaty to engage the Russian Federation in seeking innovative and constructive mechanisms to fully implement the Istanbul Commitments, consistent with the principles and objectives of the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and making full use of OSCE mechanisms;

(6) the Senate calls on all States Parties to ensure that the resolution of the current disputes surrounding the CFE Treaty be considered a priority at the highest political levels, recognizing that the CFE Treaty is important both as an arms control treaty and as an essential building block for stable relations between the Russian Federation and neighboring countries in Europe; and

(7) the Senate encourages officials of the Government of the Russian Federation to refrain from belligerent statements that only further polarize relations and jeopardize security in Europe.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Mr. TESTER. I ask unanimous consent that the Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 26 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk

will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 26) recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and commending recipients of the Purple Heart for their courageous demonstrations of gallantry and heroism on behalf of the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. TESTER. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 26) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 26

Whereas the Purple Heart is a combat decoration awarded to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded by an instrument of war wielded by the enemy;

Whereas the Purple Heart is awarded posthumously to the next of kin in the name of members of the Armed Forces who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action;

Whereas the Purple Heart was originally conceived as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington on August 7, 1782;

Whereas 2007 marks the 225th anniversary of the Badge of Military Merit, the predecessor of the Purple Heart;

Whereas the practice of awarding the Purple Heart was revived in 1932, the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, out of respect for his memory and military achievements;

Whereas more than 1,535,000 Purple Hearts have been awarded to members of the Armed Forces who fought in defense of freedom and democracy in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and other expeditionary conflicts;

Whereas approximately 550,000 recipients of the Purple Heart are alive today;

Whereas the organization known as the Military Order of the Purple Heart was formed on October 19, 1932, for the protection and mutual interest of members of the Armed Forces who have received the Purple Heart; and

Whereas the Military Order of the Purple Heart is composed exclusively of recipients of the Purple Heart and is the only veterans' service organization comprised strictly of combat veterans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) congratulates the Military Order of the Purple Heart on its 75th anniversary as a national organization whose goals are to preserve and sustain the honor of the Armed Forces;

(2) commends all recipients of the Purple Heart for their courageous demonstrations of gallantry and heroism on behalf of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to take time to learn about the Purple Heart and the honor, courage, and bravery it symbolizes.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2007

Mr. TESTER. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday August 1; that on Wednesday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that there be a period of morning business for 30 minutes, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each and the time under the control of the Republican leader or his designee; that following the period of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 976 and resume consideration of the Ensign amendment No. 2538, with 30 minutes of debate prior to a vote in relation to the amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators ENSIGN and BAUCUS or their designees, with no second-degree amendments in order prior to the vote; that upon the use or yielding back of the time, the Senate proceed to vote in relation to the amendment without further intervening action or debate; that on Wednesday at 12 noon, Senator BYRD be recognized to speak as in morning business for up to 30 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. TESTER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 9:31 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, August 1, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Robert L. Smolen, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, vice Thomas P. D'Agostino.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Andrew R. Cochran, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, vice Nikki Rush Tinsley, resigned.